

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING September 6, 2022

### **ATTENDEES:**

**Legislators:** Barbara Roberts, Ron Ciotoli, Dennis Mullen, Dale Weston

**Staff:** LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Cathy Haskell, Ellen Pratt

**Guests:** T Hanson, CCE Executive Director, Theresa Staats, CCE Finance Manager

Committee Chair, Legislator Barbara Roberts, called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

Legislative Chair, Marte Sauerbrey, was not in attendance.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): LeeAnn Tinney** – Agenda and attachments previously emailed.

### **I. MINUTES**

#### A. Approval of minutes of August 2, 2022

Committee Chair, Legislator Roberts, asked for approval of the minutes from the August 2, 2022 committee meeting. Legislator Mullen made a motion to accept the August 2, 2022 minutes, seconded by Legislator Weston. All were in favor.

### **II. FINANCIAL**

The 2022 Year-to-Date Budget Reports were in the committee packets. Ms. Tinney reported the following:

#### A. Economic Development

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

#### B. Planning

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

#### C. Sustainability Management

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### A. Reports

1. Cornell Cooperative Extension, T Hanson – Monthly report was previously emailed. Ms. Hanson introduced a new member of her staff, Theresa Staats, Finance Manager.

Ms. Hanson reported attending the Agritourism Conference with Becca Maffei, Tourism Director, in Burlington, Vermont. This was an international conference sponsored through Finger Lakes Farm Country, adding it was a valuable conference.

Ms. Hanson reviewed her monthly report, highlighting; success of the County Fair, a \$600K multiyear USDA grant awarded, outcome of the KK&P Ag Value Chain Study, as well as highlights from the Agriculture Resource Group Meeting.

2. Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District – Monthly report previously emailed.
3. Tioga County Tourism - No report.  
Legislator Mullen reported the Waverly Music Fest was outstanding; indicating Ms. Maffei did a great job.
4. Recycling/Sustainability, Ellen Pratt – In keeping with staff reporting; Ms. Tinney introduced Ms. Pratt, Sustainability Manager. Ms. Pratt reviewed her monthly report previously emailed, highlighting the following:
  - Hazardous Waste Program with Broome County – Tioga County residents can take their hazardous waste and electronics to Broome County's facility from April to November.
  - Continues to look for a contractor to have a household hazardous waste facility in Owego or somewhere centrally located for residents 65 years or older; those that can't get to the Broome County facility. Finding it not economical at this time.
  - NYSDEC Grant received covering a percentage of 2021 salary and benefits for Ms. Pratt, the Recycling Coordinator for Tioga County.
  - Working with Irene Radigan on educational outreach videos; the State will reimburse the County 50%. Recently went to Taylor Garbage; toured the facility for video footage, also working on "Don't Be This Guy" promotional series.
  - Working on getting EV (Electric Vehicle) Charging Stations installed in Tioga County. Resolution listed below looking for authorization to enter into an agreement with NY Power Authority for the Evolve NY Program and for the annual insurance payment to come out of the Refuse and Garbage Budget for installation of EV charging stations in the Village of Owego.

A general discussion followed with many questions regarding the County's financial responsibility and maintenance of the EV charging stations. Because the chosen location is in the flood zone, there were inquiries on insurance coverage and deductible payments. It was decided to pull the resolution this month until all questions can be answered and bring it forward next month.

#### B. Grants

1. Status - Ms. Tinney reported on the status of grants the ED&P Department is involved in:
  - a. Potential (15)
  - b. Pending (18)
  - c. Active (44)

d. Completed (0)

Ms. Tinney reported Ms. Ortu provided assistance to CCE for the \$600K USDA grant that was awarded.

C. Economic/Community Development

1. Village of Owego

- a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration – Project is ongoing.
- b. NY Main Street (North Ave.) administration – Lights have been installed and baskets have been hung as part of this project.
- c. OPRHP EPF Grant- Owego Police Department – ED&P applied for this grant on behalf of Village of Owego. Administration of this grant will begin for improvements to the Police Station. ED&P will provide support and guidance through this process.

2. Village of Waverly

- a. NY Forward application - ED&P providing assistance on this “mini” DRI application on behalf of Village of Waverly. This is a new program the state has put out; 2M - 4.5M award. Application deadline is in September.
- b. Economic Analysis Report- Completed and final report adopted by the Village. Ms. Jardine provided assistance through this process.

3. Village of Candor

- a. NY Main Street administration – This project is ongoing; a Land Bank application that ED&P provided assistance with on for 2 buildings on Main Street in Candor.

4. Town of Nichols- Broadband- ConnectALL

- a. Build began August 1<sup>st</sup> - East River Road and West River Road is nearing completion and they are starting to connect to homes; project is moving quickly.
- b. ED&P is providing marketing/social media assistance. There will be another public meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Fire Hall. A map of broadband levels of service in Tioga County was on display; showing served, underserved and unserved areas.

5. Municipalities

- a. Snowmobile Grant is in process.
- b. Sweeper/Vacuum truck status
  - 1. Continue to work on Shared Services Agreement between Village of Owego, Town of Owego, Village of Nichols and the County. Chair Roberts reported the truck is up and running. It was only a loose wire causing a problem; a new computer was not needed.
- c. Recruitment Website – A website to assist our local employers with information on school districts, crime rate, available homes; information someone might look for when relocating to Tioga County.

6. REAP – Continuing as usual.

7. Leadership Tioga – Class continues with Ms. Ortu as the facilitator.

8. Chambers of Commerce – Great connections with the following Chambers:

- a. Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce- Provided assistance with the golf tournament.

- b. Tioga County Chamber of Commerce- Providing assistance with the formation of the Foundation Group.
- D. Land Bank – Ms. Woodburn attended the following:
  - 1. NYLBA- Rural Land Bank Committee meeting.
  - 2. NYLBA- Monthly Board meeting.
- E. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning has set up and attended the following:
  - 1. Talent Supply Table first meeting
    - a. Program Coordinator Subcommittee meeting.
    - b. Intergovernmental Subcommittee meeting.
- F. Planning
  - 1. Village of Waverly NY Forward application – Provided assistance, as mentioned earlier.
  - 2. NYS Department of Ag & Markets- SEQR process; resolution listed below.
    - a. Set Public Hearing – September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
    - b. Adopt customized SEQR EAF
- G. Sustainability Management – Ms. Pratt reported earlier:
  - 1. September E-Bulletin to Tioga County Employees.
  - 2. NYSDEC Recycling Coordination/Education Projects Grant for 2021 Sustainability Manager position received reimbursement for \$31,150.28.
  - 3. Hazardous Waste Program
    - a. Electronics/Hazardous Waste paid to Broome County \$17,981.50
    - b. Electronics/Tioga County Towns paid \$1,641.60.
- H. IDA
  - 1. Owego Gardens – This project is ongoing.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Reports
- B. Grants
- C. Economic/Community Development
  - 1. Broadband Map – On display earlier.
- D. Presentations made this month:
  - 1. Kiwanis- Ms. Ortu presented on Community Development.
  - 2. Rotary- Ms. Pratt presented on Electronic Vehicle Charging Stations.
  - 3. Kiwanis- Mr. Lanning presented on Education Workforce Development and the Owego Apalachin School house project.
- E. Land Bank – Ms. Woodburn completed the following:
  - 1. WBNG interview regarding the RFP's that went out for the Temple and Liberty Street properties.
  - 2. Land Bank Initiative- Funding opportunity through the State; three years/\$300,000.00. We have been awarded for Phase 1 for \$100,000.00. Looking forward to future opportunities for phase 2 and phase 3; \$100,000.00 for each phase.
- F. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning is working on the following:
  - 1. Eduready 360 demos – A job search software to help schools connect students with available jobs.

2. Tioga County Jr. Chamber Program
3. ARC Grant MOU County/IDA – Originally the Education Workforce Development Coordinator position was set up to be paid by the Hooker Foundation; \$100,000.00 per year for 3 years to cover salary, fringe and program expenses. The program would then be assessed after 3 years with the hope of continuing. The Hooker Foundation agreed with the caveat that if another funding opportunity became available, this would alleviate some money to use for other programs. ARC has been identified as another source. The IDA applied for and has been awarded \$75,000.00 to offset the funding from the Hooker Foundation. The application was made in the name of the IDA because initially the position was going to go through the IDA, however, it ended up going through the County. The Legislative Chair, Marte Sauerbrey, wanted a clear agreement on how the ARC money was going to flow. With the assistance of Mr. DeWind, the County Attorney, a Memo of Understanding has been made between the County and the IDA specific to the Hooker Foundation and ARC funds and how the funds are going to flow. Mr. DeWind has reviewed and approved the agreement. Ms. Tinney is bringing this agreement forward for this committee’s awareness and approval. Going forward ED&P will split the cost of salary, fringe and expenses for payment from Hooker Foundation, 50%, and ARC, through the IDA, 50%. The committee was in support to move forward with this agreement. For the complete Legislature approval it was decided to bring this forward at the Law Committee Meeting on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### G. Planning

1. 239 Reviews (4)
  - a. County Case 2022-021: Town of Berkshire, Site Plan Review (Labrador Lumber)- Unanimous approval.
  - b. County Case 2022-022: Town of Owego, Site Plan Review and Special Use Permit (Albanese Apartments)- Unanimous approval.
  - c. County Case 2022-023: Town of Owego, Site Plan Review and Special Use Permit (Barton Solar Farm)- Unanimous approval.
  - d. County Case 2022-2024: Town of Owego, Flood Plain Special Use Permit (Catskill Shed Company) - Unanimous approval.

#### H. Sustainability Management

##### I. IDA

##### J. Misc.

1. State Lead Responses – Responded to 2 leads this month.
2. New Office Door decal proposal - Ms. Tinney displayed the front door design for the new office that ED&P is going to move to.

## V. PERSONNEL- N/A

## VI. RESOLUTIONS

- 101-Designation of Tioga Co. LDC DBA Tioga Co. Tourism as Authorized Tourism Promotion Agency for 2023

- 103-Set Public Hearing for Adoption of NYS Agriculture Markets New Ag District SEQR Short EAF
- 106-Set Public Hearing For Restore NY River House Confectionery Mercantile Project
- 107-Set Public Hearing for Restore NY Tioga Trails Project Appoint TCLDC as County TPA
- 110 -Authorize Submission of FEMA HMP Update Revised Grant Application

After reviewing the above resolutions, Ms. Tinney asked this committee for support to move the resolutions forward: vote on the resolutions follows:

- Legislator Roberts - yes
- Legislator Mullen - yes
- Legislator Ciotoli - yes
- Legislator Weston – yes

The following resolution was pulled due to unanswered questions; will be presented next month:

- 134-Site Host Agreement With New York Power Authority (NYPA) For The Evolve NY Program

**VII. PROCLAMATIONS- N/A**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Linda Sampson  
 Administrative Assistant Economic Development